

**Minutes of the Carlisle Board of Health
June 8, 2010**

Present: Board Members Jeff Brem Chair, Bill Risso, Mark Caddell; and Cathy Galligan; absent Michael Holland; Linda Fantasia, Agent, Laura Scholten (Mosquito);

The meeting was called to order at 7:35 p.m. in the Nickles Room at Town Hall.

Open Meeting Law – The scheduled meeting with town counsel on the revisions to the Open Meeting Law is postponed to 6/9/10 at 7:30 p.m. Galligan provided the Board with a summary of the changes. Compliance with may be difficult. For example, the Board will need to list and retain copies of all documents submitted at a meeting, including plans. The Board discussed various ways of doing this. There is a possibility of a delay in the new law which is scheduled to go into effect 7/1/10.

Minutes of 5/25/10 – next meeting

Bills – It was moved (Risso) and seconded (Caddell) to accept the bills as presented. Risso said they bills include payrolls and training reimbursements. Motion passed 4.0

Administrative Reports

BU School of Public Health (BUSPH) Intern – Fantasia contacted BUSPH about an intern Practicum. Galligan agreed to help supervise. Possible projects include assessing what remains to be done for a Heart Safe Community, designation; researching and preparing resources on Lyme disease, investigating a medical take back program and organizing a public flu clinic. The program would start this summer. Hours would be flexible and unpaid. The student earns degree credits for the Practicum. Office space would be provided but the intern would need a car.

Lyme Disease Presentation –. Donald Craven, M.D., Chairman of Infectious Disease Department at Lahey Clinic has agreed to do a presentation on September 8th. He was the speaker at a recent MA School Nurse Association event on Lyme. The event will be held in the Clark Room at Town Hall so that it can be televised. The Unitarian Church could be a back up if for a larger audience, but the school would be too large. The Board will begin advertising the talk this summer.

Sanitarian Position – the Board reviewed the essential functions listed in the job description. The Board is mainly interested in Food Establishment inspections, although there may be some camp inspections required. Final candidates should have ServSafe Certification and the ability to do CORI reviews. Risso would be interested in how the inspector deals with non-compliance issues. There should be emphasis on education rather than enforcement. Experience with legal remedies or closing down a facility would also be helpful. The Board will work on a list of questions. The Board agreed to interview Phelps, Decie, Sarasin, Colburn and Sweet at the next meeting which will start at 7:00 with the first interview at 7:15. The Board decided on a \$40/hr rate with \$50 for after -hour emergencies. Telephone work will be billed by the ¼ hr and a record must be kept of the purpose.

Discussion Items

Regionalization – Risso reported on the state regionalization conference held last week at Bentley College. He also participated in a two hour teleconference. Major points for each include the following: budget should not be the only reason to consider regionalization; the goal is improvement of service not cost cutting measures; the state is funding grants for towns considering regionalization; the goal is public health uniformity where municipalities that have better services can help those that do not; the state is also looking to require uniform credentials for public health departments. Risso felt Carlisle already has a strong public health department so there may not be much incentive. Carlisle's investment in public health is very high due to its staff and volunteer base. Regionalization would benefit communities that have fewer services. Regionalization is not restricted to public health; it may also be appropriate to other municipal departments such as the fire department. Risso spoke with Board of Selectman Chairman John Williams who is on the subcommittee. He explained that if the town needs to address budget shortfalls it would be better to keep the local health department but reduce hours. The same services could be

maintained but with less overhead. Brem said many of the surrounding towns have great health services and there are already a number of Health Districts including Nashoba Boards of Health. Risso said Barnstable County on Cape Cod was one of the health districts presented at the conference. Each member town of the health district maintains its own local Board of Health and each community continues to have a local presence, usually a clerical person. Professional services are regionalized. Brem said this can be good or bad depending on the quality of the staff. Once an inspector, for example, is hired, he works for the Region. There is very different from hiring an individual contractor who works for the Board. Regionalization might provide specialized services, but the Board questioned how often it might need to access these services and would this outweigh the loss of individual control.

Risso said there are also certain intangibles not related to public health credentials that are just as important. Volunteer and community support for the H1N1 Clinics is a good example. This all happened on the local level with the help of local staff. Galligan questioned the economic benefit if there still needs to be staff at town hall. There has been discussion on combining some positions, but it might be difficult maintaining a high level of service if staffing is reduced. What the town needs to look at is long term planning such as when retirements or vacancies that occur. Risso said Title 5 is also a big factor for communities looking to regionalize. Regionalization works best in providing uniform services to its community members. This can be problematic when individual towns have different local regulations particularly for Title 5. Carlisle might not be able to maintain its high level of environmental protection if it loses control over Title 5 issues. Brem agreed that towns approach Title 5 very differently; this might be difficult for a regional staff person to manage. There may very well be loss of local control and with little long term economic benefit. John Luther, Building Inspector present for another discussion, said he had experience with the Melrose-Wakefield program. It was intended to save money but there was not enough staff to handle both towns so services were affected. It took significantly longer to obtain permits and the towns did not always agree. Luther did not see the benefit for regionalizing the Board of Health which is an integral part of the land use permitting process. Risso said there is a subcommittee looking into regionalization. He represents the Board of Health. There is also a Recreation Board member, Selectmen, Finance Director and a citizen yet to be named. The subcommittee has not yet met. The Board agreed to put together a list of pros and cons as a starting point. Risso thought it would be helpful for the board to take a position for the subcommittee's use. Board members agreed that if there is already a consensus, this should be stated and explained. Brem asked Board members to prepare individual lists for the next meeting.

Old Home Day – Risso, Galligan and Caddell are available. Frank deAlderete and Risso will bring the MRC trailer over. The Board will also have a booth at the Country Fair. Fantasia said the MRC Ex Com has chosen brochures to display. They cover Lyme Disease, Suicide Prevention, and Teen Issues. She is preparing a Health Survey for residents to complete and information will be provided on Neighborhood Networks.

Sharps Disposal – Galligan reported that the deadline for not accepting sharps at landfills has been extended for two years in order to give communities more time to find appropriate disposal methods. She suggested preparing a press release to help inform residents of better ways of disposing sharps such as a mail back programs. Local pharmacies do not yet provide this service, but mailers can be obtained on the internet. It is an expensive proposition so not everyone can do it.

Town Sewer Project – Brem would like to move forward on a town center sewer project using the school's underutilized treatment plant. The Library, Carlisle Elderly Housing and other town facilities might make use of it. The treatment plant suffers from sporadic flows based on the school's attendance. It is difficult to maintain good biological treatment because of this. Brem suggested contacting Weston & Sampson, who operate the CPS WWTP, for help in preparing a planning document for SRF Funding. The town's previous submittal in 2008 was not funded because of insufficient professional analysis. Fantasia will follow up.

Well Testing Fire Station – the Board agreed to pay for the testing along with the other center residences.

Ferns Country Store – Indoor Seating Request. Present for the discussion was Larry Bearfield, Robin Emerson, and John Luther (Building Inspector).

Bearfield asked the Board on behalf of Carlisle Center Ventures, LLC d/b/a "Ferns Country Store" to reconsider a request for a new indoor seating area for 19 patrons in accordance with plan entitled "Renovations and Additions to Ferns Country Store, 8 Lowell Road, Carlisle MA, revised 5/5/10, prepared by Sutphin Architects."

Bearfield explained that Ferns is finally prepared to move forward on the final construction phase which includes the renovation of the former cashier area into an indoor seating area with tables and chairs for 19 patrons. This area was not addressed in the Board's 2008 site plan review approval due to unresolved well and septic issues with the state. Bearfield presented the following documentation in support of the request:

- Registration of Ferns Country Store onsite well as a transient non-community public water system with the MassDEP Drinking Water Program as PWS-ID #30510120 on April 27, 2010;
- Amended Title 5 Variance (Transmittal No. X232903) on April 27, 2010 issued by MassDEP Bureau of Resource Protection relative to the public water supply and required setbacks;
- Installation in March, 2010, of a minimal-discharge Clivus Composting System in a HC-accessible, unisex public restroom.

The Board reviewed the layout showing the new seating area. Seating is limited to 19 because of the unisex bathroom. There will be no table service or changes to the current food establishment operation. The use of the seating area will be similar to the current outside patio area. It will allow patrons to remain inside during inclement weather. Bearfield noted that the wellhead had been covered and approved by DEP. This was a condition of the PWS Registration.

Based on the above findings, the Board of Health agreed that Ferns Country Store has adequately addressed the well and septic issues and could proceed with plans to open an indoor seating area. The Board will send a letter to the Selectmen. Bearfield thanked the Board for their patience and assistance during the lengthy permitting process.

It was moved (Risso) and seconded Caddell) to send a letter to the Selectmen approving the indoor seating area at Ferns Country Store as shown on plan submitted to the Board of Health on 6/8/10 and subsequent to the granting of an amended Title 5 Variance for the septic system and the registration of the onsite well as a PWS. Motion passed 4-0-0

There was no further business discussed. Meeting voted to adjourn at 9:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Fantasia
Recorder